[30th August 1961

(c) the number of cases challenging the allotment of bus routes pending in the High Court as on 31st December 1960 with reference to each section of the Motor Vehicles Act or the Government Order relating to that Act?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: (a) Twelve buses on seven routes.

(b) Madras State Transport Department—one bus on one route.

Private operators—five buses on five routes.

Co-operative societies—six buses on five routes.

(c) Seven. This relates to permits granted prior to 1960.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: I would like to know the answer to clause (c).

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: Seven. This relates to permits granted prior to 1960.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Will the Hon. Minister kindly tell us the number of cases under each section pending before the High Court?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: A separate question may be put.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR: May I know whether there is any proposal to run an Express bus between Tiruchirappalli and Bangalore?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: That question has to be put to my Hon. Colleague.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Is the Hon. Minister aware that all the seven cases pending before the High Court relate to one Government Order issued in 1958?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: I do not know under what Government Order they are pending or for what reasons they are pending. If the hon. Member is very particular about getting the information, he may put a separate question.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: I have asked for this information in my main question itself. I wanted to know under what section or order the cases are pending before the High Court. I will put the question again as desired by the Hon. Minister.

Supply of coal

3-20 p.m. * 306 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state, with reference to the answer given to Legislative Council Question No. 111 on 4th March 1961, the reasons for the variations in the middleman's commission in the supply of coal to Basin Bridge Power Station from 25 nP. to 40 nP. per ton?

30th August 1961]

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : As already stated in my reply to question No. 111 on 4th March 1961, as per the Colliery Control Order a middleman's commission not exceeding Re. 1 per ton is payable to the suppliers. The contractor who quoted a middleman's commission of 25 nP. per ton was in a position to supply only about 1,000 tons per month as against the monthly requirement of the order of 10,000 tons. As the only other contractor who had the capacity to supply the balance was not prepared to accept a middleman's commission of 25 nP., but wanted 40 nP. per ton, the Electricity Board had no other alternative except to accept the higher middleman's commission demanded by the contractor.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Sir, was any action taken by the Electricity Board against the contractor who was not able to fulfil the terms of his contract entered into with the Board?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : There was no need for taking action, because he could not supply the ten thousand tons. So, we had to go for another who could supply the ten thousand tons.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : If the terms of the contract are not fulfilled, he will have to forfeit his contract.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : He has quoted only for 1,000 tons at that commission rate. We were not satisfied with the supply of 1,000 tons. So, we had to go to the man who was prepared to supply our full requirements.

Bridges

* 307 *Q.*—SRI A. K. THANGAVEL MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to widen the bridges on the National and State Highways;

(*b*) the number of bridges likely to be taken up for execution during 1961–62; and

(*c*) the number of bridges proposed to be widened during the Third Five-Year Plan?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Three works on State Highways have been sanctioned for execution during 1961–62. Works on National Highways will be taken up as and when sanction of the Government of India is received.

(*c*) Thirty-seven works on State Highways are proposed to be taken up under the Third Plan. Seventeen works on National Highways are also proposed to be taken up during the Third Plan Period with the approval of the Government of India.

SRI A. K. THANGAVEL MUDALIAR : விளங்கவில்லை. தயவு செய்து விளங்கும்படி தமிழில் சொல்லும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.